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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Tsingtao Law Court Under Communist Control and Apprehension of Japanese Collaborators

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1. The Communists have re-formed the Tsingtao law court, retaining those judges who remained in the city during the Communist take-over and adding one Communist judge.
2. The first instruction to the court has been to apprehend Japanese collaborators, and the first person to be re-arrested has been YAO Tso-pin, Tsingtao mayor during the Japanese occupation.
3. YAO complained that he had paid \$500* to the same judges on his previous indictment, this sum being bail to cover his release. He demanded that the amount be returned to him.
4. The Communist judge checked with the jurors and found YAO's statement to be correct, but court records did not show the payment. The judges involved explained that since they had received no salary, this money had been divided among themselves in lieu of salaries.
5. The military control board ordered the judges to refund the sum to YAO in three days. This done, YAO was imprisoned to be re-tried for his aid to the Japanese.
6. No other collaborators have been arrested as the judges wish to avoid any further embarrassment.

Comment. Presumably US \$500.

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